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KHINČIN-KULLBACK-LEIBLER ESTIMATION
WITH INEQUALITY CONSTRAINTS

by

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ABSTRACT

In this paper we extend our grasp of statistical theory, duality theory, and computational convenience to the general linear inequality situation in K^2L (or minimum discrimination information) estimation by exhibiting it as the limit of a simple one parameter sequence of equality problems. Only the finite discrete distribution case is treated here.

KEY WORDS

Khinchin-Kullback-Leibler Estimation

Inferential Distribution

Minimum Discrimination Information

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INTRODUCTION

Frequently in hypothesis testing or estimation of an "inferential" distribution (in Akaike's terminology) by the Khinčin-Kullback-Leibler (or Minimum Discrimination Information) method one has information about the possible candidate distributions in the form of linear inequalities on the components of the distribution in addition to equality (moment) constraints. In MOFS 1978, Charnes, Cooper, and Seiford [1] developed a convex programming duality theory for the K^2L method with linear inequality constraints. It is especially incisive and convenient for constraints in equality (or moment) form which, further, have connections with established statistical theory as well as the analytic and computational facility of an unconstrained extremal problem in simple smooth functions.

In this paper we extend our grasp of statistical theory, duality theory, and computational convenience to the general linear inequality situation by exhibiting it as the limit of a simple one parameter sequence of equality problems. We treat only the finite discrete distribution case here, reserving the general distribution case to a forthcoming paper which also simplifies the duality theory of the "equality" case for general distributions as developed by Ben-Tal and Charnes in [2].

INEQUALITY AND APPROXIMATING EQUALITY FORMS

The dual programs for the inequality form as presented in Charnes-Cooper-Seiford [1] are

$$\begin{aligned}
 \max \quad v(\delta) &\triangleq -\delta^T \ln \left[\frac{\delta}{ec} \right] \\
 \text{(I)} \quad \text{s.t.} \quad &\delta^T A^1 = b^{1T} \\
 &\delta^T A^2 + \gamma^T = b^{2T}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\delta, \gamma \geq 0$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{(II)} \quad \inf \xi(z) &\triangleq c^T e^{A^1 z^1 + A^2 z^2} - b^{1T} z^1 - b^{2T} z^2 \\
 \text{s.t.} \quad &-z^2 \geq 0
 \end{aligned}$$

To obtain the dual programs for our approximating (weighted) equality form, we employ the procedure in [1]. Thus, consider

$$(1) \quad K(x, y, \delta, \gamma) \triangleq \sum_{i \in I^1} (c_i e^{x_i} - \delta_i x_i) + \sum_{i \in I^2} (\epsilon c_i e^{(y_i/\epsilon)} - \gamma_i y_i)$$

where $c_i > 0$ for all i and $\epsilon > 0$.

Minimizing with respect to x_i and y_i gives:

$$(2) \quad x_i^* = \ln \left(\frac{\delta_i}{c_i} \right), \quad i \in I^1, \quad y_i^* = \epsilon \ln \left(\frac{\gamma_i}{\epsilon c_i} \right), \quad i \in I^2$$

Hence,

$$(3) \quad -\sum_{i \in I^1} \delta_i \ln \left(\frac{\delta_i}{c_i} \right) - \epsilon \sum_{i \in I^2} \gamma_i \ln \left(\frac{\gamma_i}{\epsilon c_i} \right) \leq K(x, y, \delta, \gamma)$$

To decouple, as in [1], we obtain

$$(4) \quad \delta^T x + \gamma^T y = b^{1T} z^1 + b^{2T} z^2$$

and

$$(5) \quad (\delta^T, \gamma^T) \begin{bmatrix} A^1 & A^2 \\ 0 & I \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} z^1 \\ z^2 \end{bmatrix} = (b^{1T}, b^{2T}) \begin{bmatrix} z^1 \\ z^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

when we choose

$$(6) \quad x = A^1 z^1 + A^2 z^2, \quad y = z^2$$

Thereby, we have the dual problems

$$(III) \quad \max_{\delta, \gamma, \varepsilon} v(\delta, \gamma, \varepsilon) \triangleq - \sum_{i \in I^1} \delta_i \ln \left(\frac{\delta_i}{\varepsilon c_i} \right) - \varepsilon \sum_{i \in I^2} \gamma_i \ln \left(\frac{\gamma_i}{\varepsilon c_i} \right)$$

s.t.

$$\delta^T A^1 = b^1 T$$

$$\delta^T A^2 + \gamma^T = b^2 T$$

$$\delta, \gamma \geq 0$$

and

$$(IV) \quad \inf \xi(z) \triangleq c^1 T_e A^1 z^1 + A^2 z^2 - b^1 T_z^1 - b^2 T_z^2 + \varepsilon c^2 T_e (z^2 / \varepsilon)$$

with z unconstrained

(Note that the $c_i, i \in I_2$, may be chosen arbitrarily.)

The duality theory of (III) and (IV) is precisely that of the equality case in [1], as may be seen by making the change of variables to

$$\tilde{\gamma}_1 \triangleq \varepsilon \gamma_1, \quad \tilde{c}_1 \triangleq \begin{bmatrix} c_i, i \in I^1 \\ \varepsilon c_i, i \in I^2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Our present form is, however, more convenient for our arguments.

We now define

$$(7.1) \quad f(z) \triangleq c^1 T_e A^1 z^1 + A^2 z^2 - b^1 T_z^1 - b^2 T_z^2, \quad z^2 \leq 0$$

$$(7.2) \quad g(z, \varepsilon) \triangleq c^1 T_e A^1 z^1 + A^2 z^2 - b^1 T_z^1 - b^2 T_z^2 + \varepsilon c^2 T_e (z^2 / \varepsilon)$$

We will then have

Theorem 1:

For some $\epsilon > 0$, $\inf_{z^2 \leq 0} f(z)$ exists if and only if $\inf_z g(z, \epsilon)$ exists.

Further,

$$\lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \inf_z g(z, \epsilon) = \inf_{z^2 \leq 0} f(z)$$

Proof:

Consider $\frac{\partial g}{\partial z_i^2}$. It may be written as

$$(8) \quad \frac{\partial g}{\partial z_i^2} = (c^1_k)^T e^{A^1 z^1 + A^2 z^2 - b^2_1 + z^2_1 c_1 e^{(z^2_1/\epsilon)}} \quad , \quad i \in I^2$$

where $k_r \triangleq \frac{\partial}{\partial z_i^2} (r A^2 z^2)$ and $(c^1_k)^T \triangleq (c^1_{k_1}, \dots, c^1_{k_m})$.

For $z^2_1 > 0$ we see that by choosing ϵ small enough we can make $g(z, \epsilon)$ an increasing function in that direction. Thus, in seeking a minimum we need only consider $z^2 \leq 0$. For notational simplicity in the following and "inf" with respect to z shall always also entail $z^2 \leq 0$.

For $z^2 \leq 0$ and all $\epsilon > 0$ we have

$$(9) \quad f(z) \leq g(z, \epsilon) \leq f(z) + \epsilon \sum_{i \in I^2} c_i$$

If $\inf f(z)$ exists, then, by (9), $\inf f(z) \leq g(z, \epsilon)$ so that $\inf g(z, \epsilon)$ exists for all $\epsilon > 0$. Further, $\inf f(z) \leq \inf g(z, \epsilon)$. On the other hand, if $\inf g(z, \epsilon)$ exists, then, by (9), $\inf g(z, \epsilon) \leq f(z) + \epsilon \sum_{i \in I^2} c_i$ so that $\inf f(z)$ exists. Further, too, $\inf g(z, \epsilon) \leq \inf f(z) + \epsilon \sum_{i \in I^2} c_i$.

Hence

$$(10.1) \quad \inf f(z) \leq \inf g(z, \varepsilon) \leq \inf f(z) + \varepsilon \sum_{i \in I^2} c_i$$

and

$$(10.2) \quad \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \inf g(z, \varepsilon) = \inf f(z)$$

When $f(z)$ has a minimum at z^* , again from (9) we can conclude

$$(11) \quad f(z^*) = \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} g(z^*, \varepsilon)$$

Q.E.D.

So much for the minimization side of the duality. For the K^2_L side we have

Theorem 2:

The maximum in problem (I) and, as $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$, in problem (III) is the same.

Proof:

For $0 \leq \gamma_i \leq \varepsilon c_i$, we have $-c_i \leq \gamma_i \ln\left(\frac{\gamma_i}{\varepsilon c_i}\right) \leq 0$, whereas for

$\gamma_i > \varepsilon c_i$, $\gamma_i \ln\left(\frac{\gamma_i}{\varepsilon c_i}\right) > 0$. Therefore,

$$(12) \quad -\varepsilon \sum_{i \in I^2} \gamma_i \ln\left(\frac{\gamma_i}{\varepsilon c_i}\right) \leq \varepsilon \sum_{i \in I^2} c_i \quad \text{for all } \gamma_i \geq 0.$$

Thus,

$$(13) \quad v(\delta, \gamma, \varepsilon) \leq v(\delta) + \varepsilon \sum_{i \in I^2} c_i \leq f(z) + \varepsilon \sum_{i \in I^2} c_i$$

From (13) we conclude

$$(14) \quad \sup v(\delta, \gamma, \epsilon) \leq \sup v(\delta) + \epsilon \sum_{i \in I_2} c_i \leq \inf f(z) + \epsilon \sum_{i \in I_2} c_i$$

But by the theory of [1],

$$\sup v(\delta, \gamma, \epsilon) = \max v(\delta, \gamma, \epsilon) = \inf g(z, \epsilon) \geq \inf f(z) \text{ by (10.1). Hence}$$

$$(15) \quad \inf f(z) \leq \max v(\delta, \gamma, \epsilon) \leq \sup v(\delta) + \epsilon \sum_{i \in I_2} c_i \leq \inf f(z) + \epsilon \sum_{i \in I_2} c_i$$

Thus letting $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$, we have

$$(16) \quad \inf f(z) \leq \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \max v(\delta, \gamma, \epsilon) \leq \sup v(\delta) \leq \inf f(z)$$

and

$$(17) \quad \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \max v(\delta, \gamma, \epsilon) = \sup v(\delta) = \inf f(z)$$

Q.E.D.

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